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ILLUSTRATED WITH ENGRAVINGS DESIGNED BY JOHN MARTIN, ESQ.

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THE chief object and distinctive charm of this publication are the exquisite productions of Art by which it is embellished: these consist of Twenty-four illustrative Engravings, designed and executed in mezzotinto, by Mr. MARTIN, in a style of sublimity and beauty, to which, it may be confidently said, that the Arts have hitherto produced nothing equal. Those only who have seen the grand Scriptural Paintings of this Artist (his BELSHAZZAR'S FEAST, and many others), can be duly impressed with the peculiar adaptation of his powers to the lofty undertaking of embodying the stupendous and preternatural imagery of the PARADISE LOST; in which the sublime genius of MILTON has given those wonderful descriptions of HEAVEN, and HELL, and PARADISE, and CHAOS, and CREATION: these, it may be said, without wishing to derogate from the merits of the eminent Artists who have already employed their pencils to illustrate this Poem, have not yet been treated with a boldness and grandeur kindred to the mighty imagination which created them.

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A LIST OF THE EMBELLISHMENTS TO THIS EDITION.

I. THE FALL OF THE REBEL ANGELS.

Book 1. Line 44.

"Him the Almighty Power
Hurled headlong flaming from the ethereal sky,
With hideous ruin and combustion, down
To bottomless perdition."

II. SATAN ON THE BURNING LAKE.

Book 1. Line 192.

" Thus Satan talking to his nearest mate
With head up-lift above the wave, and eyes
That sparkling blazed ; his other parts besides
Prone on the flood, extended long and large,
Lay floating many a rood."

III. SATAN AROUSING THE FALLEN ANGELS.

Book 1. Line 314.

" He called so loud, that all the hollow deep
Of Hell resounded !"

IV. PANDEMONIUM.

Book 1. Line 710.

" Anon, out of the earth, a fabrick huge
Rose like an exhalation, with the sound
Of dulcet symphonies and voices sweet,
Built like a temple, where pilasters round
Were set, and doric pillars overlaid
With golden architrave ; nor did there want
Cornice or freeze, with bossy sculptures graven :
The roof was fretted gold," &c.

V. SATAN ON HIS THRONE.

Book 2. Line 1.

" High on a throne of royal state, which far
Outshone the wealth of Ormus and of Ind,
Or where the gorgeous East with richest hand
Showers on her kings barbarick pearl and gold,
Satan exalted sat."

VI. SIN PREVENTING THE COMBAT BETWEEN SATAN AND DEATH.

Book 2. Line 727.

" O Father ! what intends thy hand, she cried,
Against thy only Son ?"

VII. HEAVEN.—RIVERS OF BLISS.

Book 3. Line 365.

" Then, crowned again, their golden harps they took
Harps ever tuned, that glittering by their side
Like quivers hung."

VIII. SATAN VIEWING THE ASCENT TO HEAVEN.

Book 3. Line 501.

" Far distant he decries

Ascending by degrees magnificent
Up to the wall of Heaven a structure high ;
At top whereof, but far more rich, appeared
The work as of a kingly palace-gate,
With frontispiece of diamond and gold
Embellished."

IX. EVE AT THE FOUNTAIN.

Book 4. Line 453.

" Not distant far from thence a murmuring sound
Of waters issued from a cave, and spread
Into a liquid plain, then stood unmoved
Pure as the expanse of Heaven, &c."

X. SATAN CONTEMPLATING ADAM AND EVE IN PARADISE.

Book 4. Line 502.

" Aside the Devil turned
For envy ; yet with jealous leer malign
Eyed them askance."

XI. SATAN AROUSED.

Book 4. Line 813.

" Up he starts
Discovered and surprised, &c."

XII. THE ANGELS GUARDING PARADISE BY NIGHT.

Book 4. Line 866.

"O friends! I hear the tread of nimble feet
Hasting this way, and now by glimpse discern
Ithuriel and Zephon through the shade."

XIII. ADAM AND EVE.—THE MORNING HYMN.

Book 5. Line 136.

"So all was cleared, and to the field they haste.
But first, from under shady arborous roof
Soon as they forth were come to open sight
Of day-spring, and the sun, who, scarce up-risen,
With wheels yet hovering o'er the ocean brim,
Shot parallel to the earth his dewy ray,
Discovering in wide landskip all the east
Of Paradise and Eden's happy plains,
Lowly they bowed adoring."

XIV. THE APPROACH OF THE ANGEL RAPHAEL.

Book 5. Line 308.

"Haste hither, Eve; and worth thy sight behold
Eastward among those trees, what glorious shape
Comes this way moving; seems another morn
Risen on mid-noon."

XV. RAPHAEL CONVERSING WITH ADAM AND EVE.

Book 5. Line 519.

"To whom the Angel. Son of Heaven and Earth
Attend!"

XVI. CREATION OF LIGHT.

Book 7. Line 339.

"Again the Almighty spake, Let there be lights
High in the expanse of Heaven, to divide
The day from night."

XVII. SATAN TEMPTING EVE.

Book 9. Line 780.

"So saying, her rash hand in evil hour
Forth reaching to the fruit, she plucked, she eat!
Earth felt the wound; and Nature from her seat,
Sighing through all her works, gave signs of woe,
That all was lost."

XVIII. EVE PRESENTING THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT TO ADAM.

Book 9. Line 995.

"From the bough
She gave him of that fair enticing fruit
With liberal hand."

XIX. ADAM HEARING THE VOICE OF THE ALMIGHTY.

Book 10. Line 108.

"Come forth!
He came; and with him Eve, more loth, though first
To offend, discountenanced both, and discomposed."

XX. BRIDGE OVER CHAOS.

Book 10. Line 312.

"Now had they brought the work by wondrous art
Pontifical, a ridge of pendent rock,
Over the vast abyss, following the track
Of Satan to the self-same place where he
First lighted from his wing, and landed safe
From out of Chaos, to the outside bare
Of this round world."

XXI. ADAM REPROVING EVE.

Book 10. Line 863.

"Whom thus afflicted when sad Eve beheld,
Desolate where she sat, approaching nigh,

Soft words to his fierce passion she assayed :
But her with stern regard he thus repelled,
Out of my sight, thou Serpent !”

XXII. HEAVEN.—RIVERS OF BLISS.

Book 11. Line 77.

“ From their blissful bowers
Of aramantine shade, fountain or spring
By the waters of life, where'er they sat
In fellowships of joy, the sons of light
Hasted.”

XXIII. APPROACH OF THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL.

Book 11. Line 226.

“ Eve, now expect great tidings, which perhaps
Of us will soon determine, or impose
New laws to be observed ; for I descry,
From yonder blazing cloud that veils the hill,
One of the heavenly host.

XXIV. ADAM AND EVE DRIVEN OUT OF PARADISE.

Book 12. Line 641.

“ They, looking back, all the eastern side beheld
Of Paradise, so late their happy seat,
Waved over by that flaming brand.”

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